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C. Amendments to the claims

1. (Currently Amended) A catheter system suitable for sclerosing a blood vessel while maintaining pressure on the blood vessel and carrying out continuous irrigation and suction inside the blood vessel, the catheter system comprising:

a. a multi-lumen tube for carrying a sclerosing agent, the multi-lumen tube having a proximal end and a distal end, the multi-lumen tube comprising:

i. a center lumen, the center lumen being used for carrying the sclerosing agent through the multi-lumen tube, wherein the center lumen is coaxial to the multi- lumen tube; and

ii. at least two outer lumens which are isolated from the center lumen and disposed in the annulus between the center lumen and outer wall of the multi-lumen tube, the outer lumens being used for transporting fluids and carrying out continuous irrigation and suction inside the blood vessel; ~~and~~

b. a tip device coupled to the distal end of the multi-lumen tube, wherein the tip device includes a circumferential depression, the circumferential depression having at least one radial port being used for infusing the sclerosing agent uniformly into the blood vessel[[.]]; and

c. a fluid porting device coupled to the proximal end of the multi-lumen tube, the fluid porting device for porting the sclerosing agent and an irrigation fluid into the multi-lumen tube, the fluid porting device further providing suction of the fluids through the multi-lumen tube.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The catheter system according to claim 1 wherein the outer lumens comprise three lumens which are equally spaced in the annulus between the center lumen and the outer wall of the multi-lumen tube.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The catheter system according to claim 1 wherein the tip device is conical in shape.

6. (Original) The catheter system according to claim 1 wherein the tip device comprises a coaxial port to allow passing of a guide wire through the tip device.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A catheter system suitable for sclerosing a blood vessel while maintaining pressure on the blood vessel and carrying out continuous irrigation and suction inside the blood vessel during a surgery, the catheter system comprising ~~a multi-lumen tube, the multi-lumen tube having a proximal end and a distal end, the multi-lumen tube comprising~~:

a. a multi-lumen tube, the multi-lumen tube having a proximal end and a distal end, the multi-lumen tube comprising:

i. a center lumen, the center lumen being used for carrying a sclerosing agent; and

ii. at least two lumens in the annulus between the center lumen and the outer wall of the multi-lumen tube which are isolated from the center lumen, wherein the lumens are used for transporting irrigation fluid[[.]] and carrying out continuous irrigation and suction inside the blood vessel, wherein the irrigation fluid is used for flushing away blood clots that may develop in the blood vessel during the surgery, and preventing the formation of any new clots inside the blood vessel; and

b. a tip device coupled to the center lumen on the distal end of the multi-lumen tube, wherein the tip device includes a circumferential depression, the circumferential depression having at least one radial port for infusing the sclerosing agent uniformly into the blood vessel.

9. (Original) The catheter system according to claim 8 wherein the center lumen is coaxial with the multi-lumen tube.

10. (Original) The catheter system according to claim 8 wherein the outer lumens comprise three equally spaced lumens disposed in the annulus between the center lumen and the outer wall of the multi-lumen tube.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A sclerosing system suitable for sclerosing a blood vessel while maintaining pressure on the blood vessel and carrying out continuous irrigation and suction inside the blood vessel, the sclerosing system comprising a catheter, the catheter comprising:

a. a multi-lumen tube, the multi-lumen tube having a proximal end and a distal end, the multi-lumen tube comprising:

i. a center lumen, the center lumen being coaxial to the multi-lumen tube wherein the center lumen is used for carrying a sclerosing agent; and

ii. three equally-spaced lumens in the annulus between the center lumen and the outer wall of the multi-lumen tube, wherein the three equally-spaced lumens are used for transporting irrigation fluids and carrying out continuous irrigation and suction inside the blood vessel, wherein the irrigation fluid is used for flushing away blood clots that develop in the blood vessel and preventing the formation of new clots inside the blood vessel;

b. a tip device coupled to the center lumen on the distal end of the multi-lumen tube, the tip device being used for infusing the sclerosing agent uniformly into the blood vessel; and

c. a fluid porting device coupled to the proximal end of the multi-lumen tube, the fluid porting device ~~being used~~ for porting the sclerosing agent and the irrigation fluid into the multi-lumen tube, the fluid porting device further ~~also~~ providing suction of ~~the~~ fluids through the multi-lumen tube.

13. (Currently Amended) The sclerosing system according to claim 12 wherein the sclerosing system further ~~comprising~~ comprises a ~~saphenous vein compressor~~ pressure applying device, the ~~saphenous vein compressor~~ pressure applying device being used for applying pressure on the ~~affected~~ blood vessel.

14. (Original) The sclerosing system according to claim 12 wherein the tip device is conical in shape.

15. (Original) The sclerosing system according to claim 12 wherein the tip device comprises a coaxial port to allow passing of a guide wire through the tip device.

16. (Original) The sclerosing system according to claim 12 wherein the tip device

comprises a circumferential depression, the circumferential depression having at least one radial port for infusing the sclerosing agent.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for sclerosing a blood vessel while maintaining pressure on the blood vessel and carrying out continuous irrigation and suction inside the blood vessel using a catheter system, the catheter system comprising a multi-lumen tube, a tip device coupled to the distal end of the multi- lumen tube, and a fluid porting device coupled to the proximal end of the multi-lumen tube, the multi-lumen tube comprising a center lumen and at least two outer lumens in the annulus between the center lumen and the outer wall of the multi-lumen tube, the method comprising the steps of:

a. inserting the catheter system into the blood vessel, the catheter system being inserted till the tip device reaches ~~the~~ an affected site[[.]];

b. maintaining ~~appropriate~~ the pressure on the blood vessel using a pressure applying device;

c. carrying out continuous irrigation and suction inside the blood vessel through the outer lumens, the outer lumens being used for transporting an irrigation fluid, wherein the irrigation fluid is used for flushing away blood clots that develop inside the blood vessel and preventing the formation of new clots inside the blood vessel;

[[c]] d. infusing a sclerosing agent through the tip device at the affected site; and

[[d]] e. removing the catheter system from the blood vessel.

18. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 17 wherein the step of inserting the catheter system comprises the steps of:

a. inserting a guide wire into the blood vessel; and

b. passing the catheter system into the blood vessel following the guide wire, such that the guide wire passes through the multi-lumen tube.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 17 further comprising the step of carrying the sclerosing agent through the multi-lumen tube.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 19 wherein the step of carrying the sclerosing agent is performed such that the sclerosing agent is carried through the center lumen of the multi-lumen tube.

21. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 17 further comprising the step of carrying the irrigation fluids through the multi-lumen tube.

22. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 21 wherein the step of carrying the irrigation fluids is performed such that the irrigation fluids ~~are~~ is carried through one of the outer lumens of the multi-lumen tube.

23. (Original) The method according to claim 17 further comprising the step of sucking fluids from the blood vessel through the multi-lumen tube.

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 23 wherein the step of sucking is performed such that the fluids are sucked through two of the outer lumens of the multi-lumen tube.

25. (Cancelled)